

Remarks

Based on the currently pending claims and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections.

Claim Status

Claims 11-12, 14-15, 17-19, 59, and 63-67 are currently pending in the application, with claims 11, 12, and 18 being the independent claims. Claims 11, 12, and 18 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 78 and 79. Claims 78 and 79 have been cancelled accordingly.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 11-12, 14-15, 17-20, 59 and 63-67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Horn *et al.* (US Patent No. 6, 465,175) in view of Tyagi *et al.* (US Patent No. 6,037,130). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for the reasons already of record. However, in an effort to expedite allowance, the allowable subject matter of dependent claims 78 and 79 has been incorporated into independent claims 11, 12, and 18. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue additional disclosed subject matter in related applications.

Both Horn and Tyagi fail to teach all the elements of the claimed methods. Thus, the cited references, either alone or in combination, are insufficient and cannot be relied upon to show *prima facie* obviousness of the currently claimed methods. Applicants therefore request that the rejection of claims 11-12, 14-15, 17-19, 59 and 63-67 be withdrawn accordingly.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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